MUSIC
THE BEST TRACKS THIS SUMMER {page 13}

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ERIN BALDASSARI/METRO

Hundreds gather outside TD Garden to cheer on the Bruins as they leave for Vancouver ◐ B's need four wins to get first Stanley Cup since 1972 {pages 02, 20}

Off to capture the Cup

News

Baidu — it's Chinese for Google

◐ Web search differs around the world ◐ Behind-the-scenes look at firm most assume is run by the Communist Party {pages 08-09}

Flogging or the big house?

Peter Moskos makes an unlikely case for offering beatings instead of jail time for criminals {page 12}

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A black-and-gold sendoff for the B's

B's fans see team off during pep rally at Garden Players excited by fan support, start of Cup finals

It didn't matter to Robin Huckleberry that she was missing the backyard barbecues and beach parties yesterday that mark the unofficial start of summer.

After all, there's going to be hockey in June in Boston.

"There's no barbecue better than this," said the Everett native whose fingernails and toenails were painted black and gold.

Huckleberry was one of about a thousand Bruins fans who crowded in front of the TD Garden yesterday to give the B's a proper send off as they begin their first Stanley Cup finals series in two decades.

After shaking hands and signing autographs for fans who waited more than two hours in the hot, muggy parking lot, the team boarded two buses that took them to their Vancouver-bound plane.

The crowd broke into various chants of "We want the Cup" and "Let's go Bruins."

But, the loudest cheer of the afternoon might have come as Bruins President Cam Neely and General Manager Peter Chiarelli walked to the bus.

Many in the crowd weren't even born when Neely laced up for the Bruins or when the team made its last trip to the Cup finals in 1990. That didn't matter yesterday.

"It might be the best day of my life," said Kaleigh McMahon, 19, of Lawrence.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

ERIK BALDASSARI/METRO

▶ Bruins fans lined up at the Garden to catch a glimpse of the Stanley Cup contenders before they headed off to tomorrow's Game 1 of the Stanley Cup finals in Vancouver.

Another shot

- **This will be** the Bruins' first Stanley Cup Finals since 1990, when they were beaten by the Edmonton Oilers.
- **The Bruins** last won the Cup in 1972.
- **It is the** 18th Cup finals berth in team history.
- **The Bruins** have won the Cup five times, which is the fourth-highest total in the NHL. The Montreal Canadiens have won it a record 23 times.

"Hopefully we'll be coming back with a couple of victories under our belt."
GOALIE TIM THOMAS

"The support's been great the last few years. We've got four more to go here." PRESIDENT CAM NEELY

"I'm just living in the moment. We've got to do it for everybody."
DEFENSEMAN JOHNNY BOYCHUK

In the news

Making deliveries safer

After a rash of delivery driver robberies, the city is launching a program to help keep drivers safe. Boston Police and Mayor Thomas Menino plan to kick off an effort dubbed "Operation Safe Delivery" today to train drivers how to stay safe while working. METRO

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PRODUCTS CELEBS LOVE FROM KIEHL'S

Mass. has one of the nation's best beaches

EASTHAM. According to a professor at Florida International University, Massachusetts is home to one of the top beaches in the country.

Coast Guard Beach in Eastham includes "a spectacular view" and "refreshing dips."

Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, also known as Dr. Beach, compiles the annual list.

Siesta Beach in Florida ranked No. 1. METRO

▶ Coast Guard Beach

Hub beach fight mars holiday

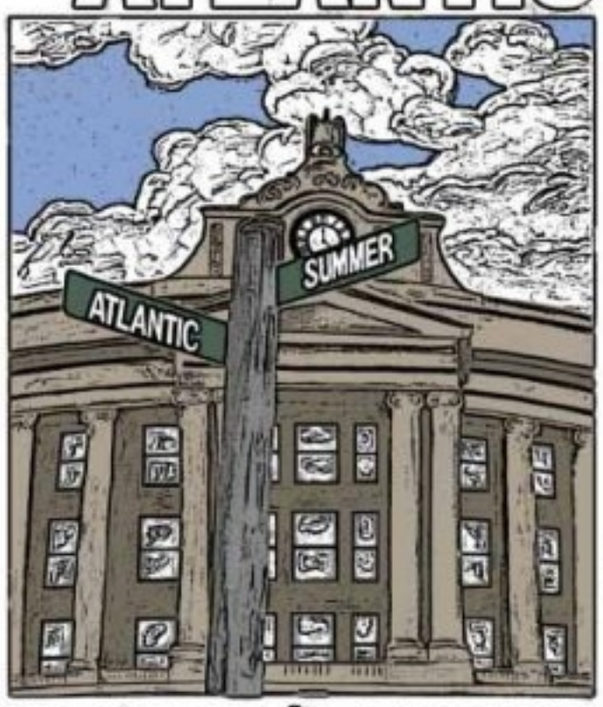
BOSTON. Swarms of police were sent to Carson Beach in South Boston yesterday after fights broke out reportedly among Memorial Day revelers.

Authorities briefly blocked off streets near the popular city beach and detained several individuals.

Local, state, transit and UMass Boston police responded to reports of unrest just after 5 p.m.

Police were able to push back and disperse the large crowd. BOSTON.COM

SUMMER& ATLANTIC



SOUTH STATION CONCERT SERIES

THURSDAY
11:30 am to 1:30 pm

All summer long, South Station celebrates the summer with free lunchtime concerts. From the soothing string quartets to energetic jazz, the concert series offers something for everyone as well as a sampling of some of Boston's musical talent. Presented by the Retailers at South Station.

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2011 CONCERT SERIES SCHEDULE

June 2
FENSGATE CHAMBER PLAYERS
Members of The Fensgate Chamber Players have traveled the world, from Carnegie Hall to St. Petersburg, Tokyo and Zimbabwe, bringing together the sounds of the string quartet to create beautiful music with emotional impact.

June 9
DEBORAH HENSON-CONANT
It's harp music like you've never heard it before. Henson-Conant plays everything from the Celtic-inspired to the Blues, Latin-infused music, jazz, funk and more. She'll be performing as part of her *Street-Harp* project, bringing her unusual instrument where people least expect it.

June 16
COPLEY CHAMBER PLAYERS
For more than 30 years, the Copley Chamber Players have brought beautiful music, elegance and charm to Boston. They will fill the Grand Concourse of South Station with selections ranging from Vivaldi, Pachelbel and Mozart to Scott Joplin.

June 23
THE TARANDJANGOS
Inspired by film director Quentin Tarantino's musical scores, the three guitars, violin and bass played by these five musicians come together to put classic gypsy jazz into a new context.

June 30
CELIA SLATTERY
Celia Slattery's original music evokes the topical singer-songwriters of the 60s, touching upon broad-ranging themes including friendship, the effects of war and overcoming cynicism. She weaves elements of jazz, pop and folk/rock with perceptive lyrics inspired by artists like Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen.

July 7
YOKO MIWA TRIO
This Japanese-born pianist, now settled in Boston, has become most notable for her lyrical and melodic style as well as her strength, agility and deep passion for the music.

July 14
BRUCE LEWIS
Piano man Bruce Lewis will have you humming along in no time as he adds his personal interpretations from a wide-ranging repertoire. He'll delight you with pop, jazz, Broadway, classical and tunes from the American songbook.

July 21
LISA THORSON
Lisa Thorson has been gracing the music scene for the past three decades as a vocalist, actress and songwriter, performing at jazz clubs, on radio, on stage, in film and on television. She has received numerous awards not only for her musical talents, but her advocacy for full access to the arts for people of all abilities.

July 28
COPLEY CHAMBER PLAYERS
The piano quartet of the Copley Chamber Players will present work from such composers as Brahms, Schumann, Frank, and Mendelssohn. Come hear how they have been delighting Boston audiences for the past 30 years.

August 4
RUSTY SCOTT QUARTET
Together for more than a decade, the Rusty Scott Quartet is one of Boston's premier straight-ahead jazz bands. Their original compositions and jazz standards have that *Blue Note* sound upholding a healthy respect for jazz traditions.

August 11
LIGHTHOUSE TRIO
The Lighthouse Trio, composed of Bob Allison on piano, Lou Masiello on drums, and bass-player George Blodgett often is joined by a sax/clarinet/horn player or singer for good measure. The trio +1 delights their listeners with standards from America's songbook.

August 18
COPLEY CHAMBER PLAYERS
Beautiful harmonies from four flutes emerge as the Copley Chamber Players present music for flute lovers and more. The quartet offers a blend of standard, alto and bass flute to create a sound that's delighted audiences for three decades.

August 25
ARIEL QUINTET
The five women who make up the Ariel Quintet combine the sounds of oboe, flute, clarinet, bassoon and horn in their interpretations of classical and chamber music.

September 1
DUO FUSION
When Joe Belmont on guitar teams with Sarah Swersey on flute, it is indeed a fusion of sounds. Duo Fusion will take you on a journey from bossa nova, tango to world music with jazz and classical mixed in.

T by the numbers

Last month was a record-setter for the MBTA, which announced yesterday that April 2011 was the T's busiest month since September 2008. T GM Rich Davey said yesterday that he was "very happy" with the numbers, but also saw room to grow on some commuter rail lines and the Blue Line. Davey said the increase is likely attributed to people getting back to work and high gas prices.

1.313

Average weekday ridership in April 2011, in millions.

3.6%

Increase in April ridership this year over last year.

7

The number of months ridership has grown since July 2010.

528.6

Average daily riders on Red, Orange and Blue lines, in thousands. It is an increase of 26,000 riders over April 2010.

242.3

Average daily riders on Green Line and Mattapan trolley, in thousands. It is an increase of 15,000 riders over April 2010.

Honoring those who served, and who still do

Region marks Memorial Day with parades, flags, salutes Hub cop, a Marine, talks about time in Iraq

For Marine Sgt. Terrence Burke, Memorial Day will always be a lot more than "just a pastime of barbecues and Bud Lights."

The Boston Police officer lost his leg while serving in Fallujah, Iraq.

Yesterday, while speaking to a crowd of hundreds during the Memorial Day celebration at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Dorchester, he urged those to remember not just those who have recently served, but the soldiers who served in wars decades before him.

"Their self sacrifices are what made this country what it is today," Burke said.

When taps played during the ceremony, many veterans stood and leaned on their canes or oxygen tanks as they held their hand over their heart.

Many veterans in the crowd yesterday were middle-aged men who served in Vietnam of the Gulf War rather than older, World War II veterans.

Mayor Thomas Menino also urged people to remember the sacrifices made by American troops.

"Our soldiers left the comfort of their homes to defend this nation," hesaid. "We'll never forget."

MICHAEL NAUGHTON

ERIN BALDASSARI/METRO

Matt Lisa and sons Chris, left, and James look at hundreds of American flags placed on Boston Common to commemorate Memorial Day.

Stand up for LOVE

THE FENWAY INSTITUTE

FACT: 63% of all HIV/AIDS cases in the US are in gay and bisexual men and infection rates are rising among men who have sex with men.

Fenway Health is seeking HIV-negative men who have sex with men to participate in a vaccine trial to determine the safety and effectiveness of an investigational HIV vaccine.

We are seeking volunteers: HIV-negative men, ages 18–50, who have been a top or bottom in the past 6 months. Volunteers receive compensation for their time and travel expenses, as well as confidential HIV counseling and testing.

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Pres. pays homage to fallen US heroes

Obama lays wreath at Tomb of the Unknowns Visits with families of soldiers who have died since 9/11 strike

President Barack Obama paid a Memorial Day tribute to generations of Americans who have fought and died to defend the nation's freedom.

"The grief that many of you carry in your hearts is a grief I cannot fully know," Obama said at the 144th Memorial Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery. "This day is about you and the fallen heroes that you loved, and it's a day that has meaning for all Americans."

Earlier in the day he and first lady Michelle Obama hosted a private breakfast for Gold Star families who've lost loved ones in war and later laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at the cemetery.

Quoted

"As a grateful nation, we forever carry the selfless sacrifice of our fallen heroes in our hearts. And we share the task of caring for those they left behind."

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION

After Obama's remarks, he and the first lady visited the cemetery's Section 60 to meet with families of soldiers buried there. Section 60 is for those who lost their lives since the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

Almost 6,000 U.S. military personnel have died in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 43,470 have been wounded, according to the Defense Department.

"We remember that the blessings we enjoy as Americans came at a dear cost, that our very presence here today as a free people in a free society bears testimony to their enduring legacy," the president said to an audience at the remembrance ceremony at Memorial Amphitheater in Arlington. BLOOMBERG

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Gary Sinise lays a wreath down during the Honoring Our Fallen Warriors Wreath-Laying ceremony at the National World War II Memorial yesterday in Washington, D.C.

Beginnings

- In 1866, the Civil War ended and few wanted to remember the bloody conflict that killed more than 620,000 men, more than almost all subsequent wars, according to South Carolina historian Robert Rosen.
- Even with Civil War wounds fresh in 1866, Waterloo pharmacist Henry Wells had noted that traffic to the graves of veterans had thinned. He feared a day when people forgot the horrors of war.
- "The first Memorial Day was organized as a day of mourning. The city was draped in black and the parade was solemn," said Caren Cleaveland, chairperson of the American Civil War Memorial in Waterloo.

ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

Candidate for top job in military

WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama yesterday nominated Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, a warrior-scholar who commanded troops in the Iraq War, as the top U.S. military officer.

Dempsey, whose pick requires Senate confirmation, would replace Adm. Mike Mullen as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff when he steps down on Oct. 1.

At a White House ceremony, Obama hailed Dempsey as "one of our nation's respected and combat-tested generals."

The nomination was the latest move in an overhaul of Obama's national security team. REUTERS

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Syria kills three in crackdown

14 The number of civilians killed in the area around the city of Homs since troops and tanks surrounded towns and villages in the region on Sunday.

AMMAN. At least three civilians were killed yesterday when security forces entered the town of Talbiseh in central Syria to crush dissent against President Bashar al-Assad, a rights group said.

The city of Homs has seen some of the biggest demonstrations against Assad since protests broke out in southern Syria in March and spread across the country, posing the most serious threat to his 11-year rule. **REUTERS**

Berlin getting out of nuke biz

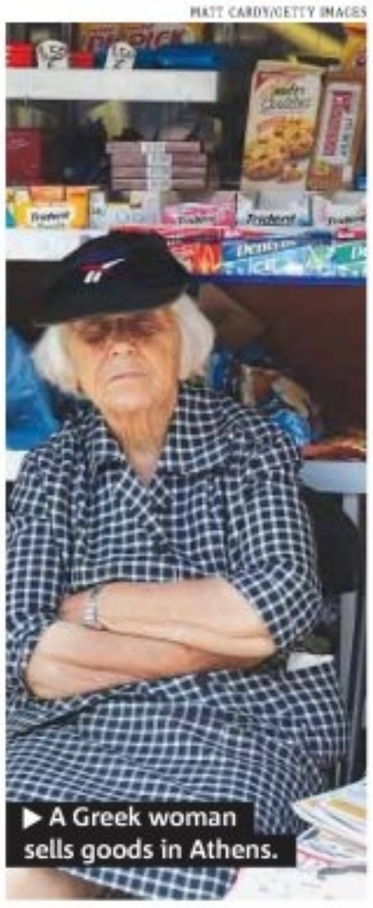
BERLIN. Germany plans to shut all nuclear reactors by 2022, Chancellor Angela Merkel's ruling coalition announced yesterday, in a policy reversal drawn up in a rush after the Fukushima disaster in Japan. The coalition said it planned to further expand the use of renewables such as wind and solar power. **REUTERS**

Mladic could be tried in days

BELGRADE. Serbia may send Ratko Mladic to face genocide charges in The Hague within four days, a justice official said yesterday. Security agents tracked the fugitive general to a messy Serbian farmhouse belonging to his cousin on Thursday, removing a big obstacle to Serbia's bid to join the European Union. **REUTERS**

EU bailout — the sequel: Greece faces loan default

MATT CARDY/GETTY IMAGES



▶ A Greek woman sells goods in Athens.

◗ Europe struggles to solve its debt problem ◗ Pesky island nation dragging the rest down? ◗ Aid withheld

The European Union is racing to draft a second bailout package for Greece to release vital loans next month and avert the risk of the euro zone country defaulting, EU officials said yesterday.

"I am quite optimistic," the chairman of euro zone finance ministers, Jean-Claude Juncker, said after discussing further aid for Athens with French President Nicolas Sarkozy.

A total restructuring of Greece's massive debt was not an option, he said, leaving the door open to some tweaking of Greece's debt profile that might involve the private sector.

Greece's conservative opposition meanwhile demanded lower taxes as a condition for reaching a political consensus with the Socialist government on further austerity measures, which Brussels says is essential to secure any further assistance.

Opposition

Extra funding for Greece faces political resistance from fiscal conservatives and nationalists in key northern creditor countries — the Netherlands, Germany and Finland — complicating the task for the EU governments.

Moves to plug a looming funding gap for 2012 and 2013 were accelerated after the International Monetary Fund said last week it would withhold the next batch of aid due on June 29 unless the EU guarantees to meet Athens' funding needs for next year.

Senior EU officials held unannounced emergency talks with the Greek government over the weekend, an EU source said.

Greece took a $158 billion rescue package from the EU and IMF last May, but has since fallen short of its deficit-reduction goals, raising the risk of default on its 327 billion euro debt — 150 percent of its economic output. **REUTERS**

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How do you say 'Google'

Google has come to dominate our lifestyle, so much so that we have a verb for it But in China, that word falls on deaf ears, thanks to the dominance of Baidu

Internet search in the world's most populous country is a bit of a contradiction in terms. If so, then China, known for it's heavy-handed censorship, may have helped create Baidu in its own image.

"On behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the propaganda bureau of the State Council, you are welcome at Baidu's headquarters," ironically proclaims Kaiser Kuo, a former member of Chinese heavy metal band Tang Dynasty and now Baidu's director for international communications.

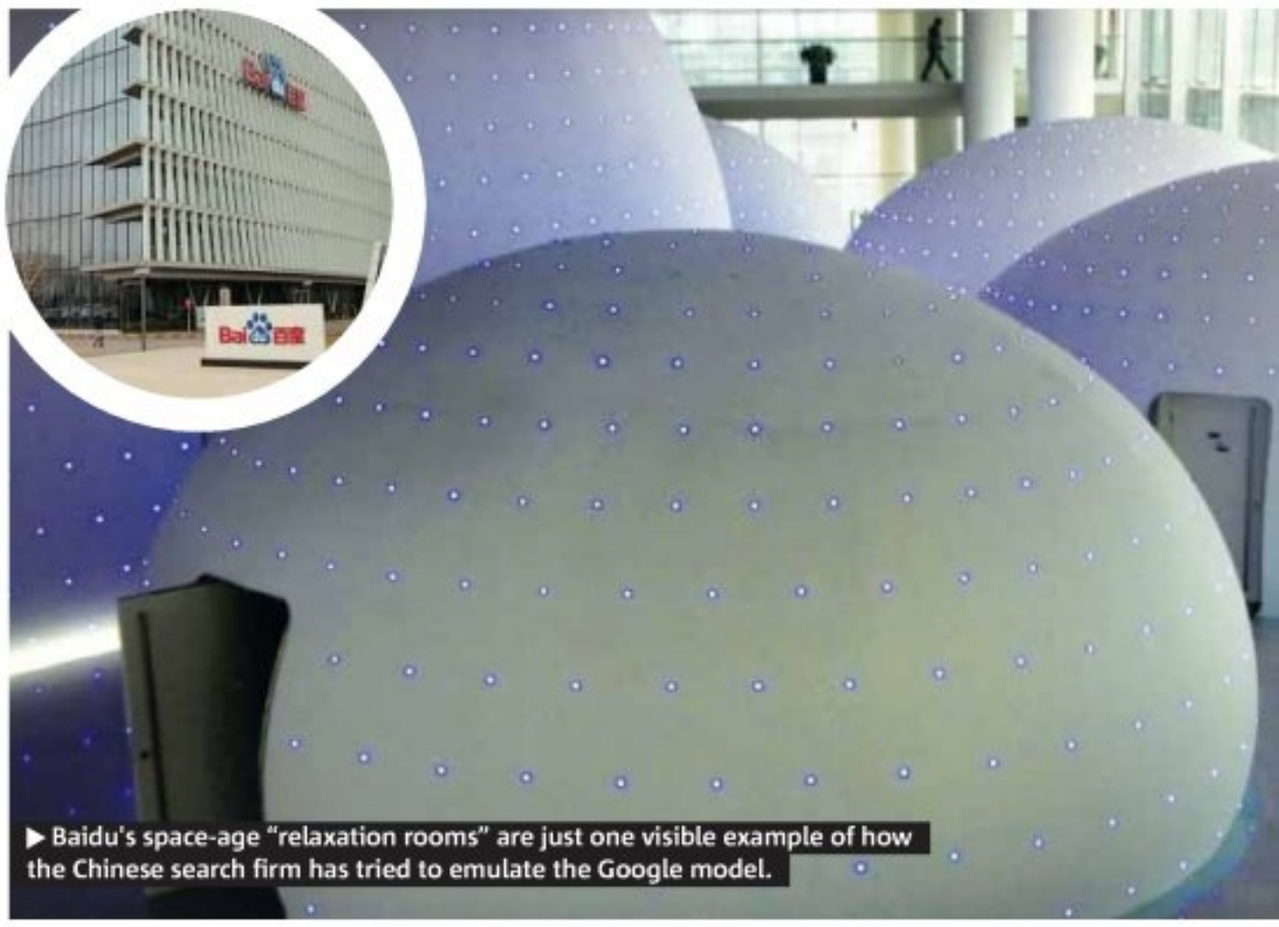
"I know a lot of foreign journalists like you who assume wrongly that we are ruled by the Party. How come?" asks the suited 40-something — who still sports a silky, rocker-style mane of hair. "Remember that we are listed on the NASDAQ exchange and the great majority of our shareholders are from western countries."

Baidu, China's most popular search engine, has a strong reputation for heavily censoring its search results when it comes to politics, human rights or even organ trafficking. Yet the company, which controls some 75 percent of searches in the world's biggest Internet market, encourages its users to download books and MP3s for free via its

Fresh faces

The Baidu workforce consists of mostly young, enthusastic IT graduates.

Baidu plans to add 6,000 workers to its rolls by the end of the year.



▶ Baidu's space-age "relaxation rooms" are just one visible example of how the Chinese search firm has tried to emulate the Google model.

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in Chinese?

Is Baidu dating Facebook?

BEIJING. Facebook is still blocked in China, but reports are rife that the company is teaming up with Baidu to release a similar social networking website in China.

In April, several meetings with Facebook boss Mark Zuckerberg and Baidu CEO Robin Li have indicated negotiations to create a Chinese Facebook, though no start date has been established.

Tapping into the Chinese market will not be easy given the country's stringent Internet laws. Websites that do not adhere to China's self-censorship rules, such as YouTube, are immediately blocked from the country's ever-growing Internet users.

● METRO/JP

dedicated platforms. Last March, forty Chinese novelists published an open letter to denounce Baidu's attitude toward intellectual property.

But for the Chinese, Baidu has the hallmarks of an organization worth working for. Every morning at 9:30, 10,000 young geeks rush to the search engine's headquarters in northwest Beijing, many proudly carrying their Baidu backpacks offered at the last corporate party.

Inside the Beijing HQ, Baidu's ground floor reminds us of fashion designer Pierre Cardin's uber-futuristic "bubble house" in southern France: five big white round rooms dedicated to relaxation or training lessons.

Baidu's staff look pretty happy and laid-back. Take Xiao Wong, a gifted 25-year-old senior Web programmer who has recently been awarded employee of the week. Last year, he was junior programmer at Chinese microblog Sina Weibo. Why did he quit?

"Less pressure and more money here," he says. A Western-style cafeteria and a sophisticated gym with TV screens playing dating shows are just a handful of perks that lured him to the company.

Even if Baidu won't let Google expand in China (only the Hong Kong version is available for Chinese), its headquarters obviously tries to look as cool as the Googleplex, Google's corporate hub in California.

"We love them, they have a good brand and good values," seems to be the only answer allowed among Baidu's legions.

My journey in China's dream factory stops here as I am not authorized to visit the censorship department, nor allowed to speak to any of the seven Baidu guys who can change search algorithms. In the main hall, a huge LCD screen displays millions of search requests in real time. I am not allowed to photograph it, as I am told "some people will think we're watching our Internet users."

Before we leave, we are introduced to Shuoba, the company's latest Twitter-like platform, on top of Baidu's popular 3-D mapping, shopping, news, audio or picture services. Surprisingly, complete ID details are required to log in.

Is it imposed by law?

"Not yet," Kuo says. "But we think the public security bureau may need this information if they want to identify harmful chatters."

After 10 days of traffic loss, Baidu eventually gave up the ID idea. Totalitarian ideas are not always good for business.

JORDAN POUILLE
letters@metro.us
METRO WORLD NEWS IN BEIJING

Quoted

"Many foreigners wrongly assume that China's Baidu is ruled by the Communist Party."
KAISER KUO

$9.4B

Baidu's CEO and co-founder, Robin Li Yanhong, is the richest man in China with a fortune worth $9.4 billion. Robin worked in Silicon Valley before founding Baidu in 2000.

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Tom Hill
CGA STAFF WRITER

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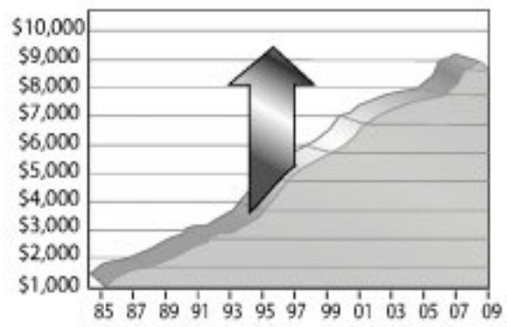

(Data Source: U.S. Federal Reserve)

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myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

A big, legal Memorial Day weekend for E!

This weekend, E! Online posted an item saying **January Jones** and her "X-Men: First Class" director, **Matthew Vaughn**, had a "very close" relationship on the film's set. This wouldn't be such a scandalous allegation if Jones weren't currently pregnant and keeping mum on the baby's paternity — and if Vaughn not currently married to **Claudia Schiffer**, with whom he has three children — the youngest of whom was born just last year. E! Online went as far as reporting that Schiffer and Vaughn supposedly abandoned their rented home in Beverly Hills around the time Jones revealed she was pregnant.

Vaughn's lawyers got ahold of the item, and it's now scrubbed from E! Online's website. Meanwhile, Vaughn's lawyer, Martin Singer, told Page Six that the report is an "absolute lie." No word yet whether Vaughn's attorneys are going to pursue any further legal action.

The cast of characters

Jones

Vaughn

Schiffer

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

However, many sites are commenting on how odd it was that there was no "X-Men" premiere, just a "cast screening" in New York last week, which Jones and other stars of the film attended. Vaughn wasn't present due to a "severe" case of tonsillitis, according to his publicist, even though he was able to do interviews for the film the same day.

So far, the bigger sites such as TMZ.com and RadarOnline, not to mention People and Us Weekly, have kept silent, meaning they're either waiting until there's more proof or the item is indeed a total lie.

I'm going with lie as no man would cheat on Claudia Schiffer, right? If so, there really is no hope for the rest of us.

Kingston in ICU

Sean Kingston is in critical condition in a Florida hospital after being badly injured in jet skiing accident Sunday evening, reports TMZ. Jackson Memorial Hospital says the hip-hop star was transferred from their trauma unit to the ICU and as of Monday night was in critical condition. Kingston was jet-skiing with a female companion around 6 p.m. on Sunday and crashed into a bridge near Miami Beach.

Sean Kingston

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or less.

Today, Kathy Griffin is in a food coma, Justin Bieber isn't a fan of heights, David Spade has trouble avoiding trouble and Carrie Fisher is a friend in need.

▶ @kathygriffin
Sleeping off Paula Deen's home made cinnamon buns in her grandkids bunk beds!

▶ @justinbieber
1200 feet in the air....not the best feeling. lol

▶ @DavidSpade
a knack for getting beat up. ive had it since childhood

▶ @CarrieFFisher
I desperately need 4 #Glastonbury tickets. I'm willing to go to any lengths that doesn't involve nudity- you wont regret it.

Carrie Fisher

Talking points

Leo and Blake heating up

Leonardo DiCaprio's European tour with rumored girlfriend **Blake Lively** continues, though the pair are doing their best to not be seen together. After a trip to Italy, DiCaprio and Lively returned to France, where they were twice spotted leaving the Saint-Paul de Vence hotel in Saint-Paul separately, according to Us Weekly. The next day, they returned to Cannes, where they were first spotted together two weeks ago, and boarded a yacht. "Blake is definitely being wooed," a source says.

Blake Lively

Sheen's home up for sale

Just days after **Charlie Sheen** announced he is selling his infamous Los Angeles mansion — which he dubbed "Sober Valley Ranch" during his in-home rehab earlier this year — he already has an offer. The home is listed at $7.2 million, but adult entertainment company YouPorn is reportedly offering $4.5 million in cash, according to TMZ. There's more to the offer, though, as the company wants to move several of Sheen's favorite porn stars into the 5-bedroom, 7-bathroom estate and offer him 24-hour-a-day access.

Cheryl Cole cashes in

While **Cheryl Cole** won't be making the jump to the U.S. "X Factor" after all, she won't go back to England empty-handed, as the axed judge will reportedly still take home her full salary for the season, according to The Sun. Cole, who was dropped from the show four days into rehearsal, will take home nearly $2 million, sources say. Hopefully the payout will help ease some of the guilt **Simon Cowell** is reportedly feeling over the sudden change. "He loves Cheryl and did everything in his power to get her on U.S. TV," a source says.

mybooks

Memoirs of a teenage vampire

For Jane Jones, being a vampire is nothing like you think it is How Caissie St. Onge captured those awkward, blood-sucking years with humor

What started out as funny banter on Twitter became the inspiration for television writer Caissie St. Onge's first young-adult novel, "Jane Jones: Worst. Vampire. Ever."

"I was on Twitter making fun of vampire movies and TV shows," remembers St. Onge. "I said that if you were a teenager who suddenly became a vampire in real life it would be dreadful. It would make you even more different and an outsider, and with my luck I would be blood-intolerant."

With that tweet, her novel was born. And while the protagonist is indeed an ageless blood-intolerant teenage vampire, "Jane Jones" reads more like a humorous coming-of-age novel than a "Twilight" rip-off. This was St. Onge's intention all along. "The vampire part is the hook, but it's not just about that. It's about a girl and her relationship to her family and peers and finding people that you fit in with," she says.

Quoted

"I felt like the vampire part is the hook, but it's not just about that. It's about a girl and her relationship to her family and peers and finding people that you fit in with."
ST. ONGE, ON "JANE JONES"

To capture that unique angst, St. Onge channeled her own awkward high school years.

"I remember my teenage years very clearly; feeling trapped and wanting so many things. In the case of Jane Jones, she is stuck and is never going to get beyond this period in her life unless something really drastic happens," she says.

Unlike many current young-adult novels which are so serious and heavy, "Jane Jones" is funny; St. Onge cultivated her humor as the assistant to such greats as David Letterman and Rosie O'Donnell. She especially credits O'Donnell with cultivating her talent. "She always introduced me as a writer," St. Onge says. "It made me understand that just because you're not drawing a paycheck for your writing doesn't mean that you're not a writer."

NATASHA LEVINGER
letters@metro.us

▶ Unlike her protagonist, author Cassie St. Onge isn't a high-schooler who's over 100 years old — thank goodness.

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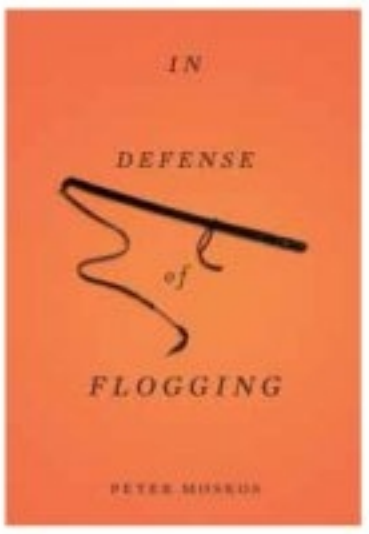


Flogging versus prison: The debate

Peter Moskos wants to reintroduce flogging as punishment in the US Surely he can't be serious? But once you read his new book, 'In Defense of Flogging,' you might find yourself agreeing with him

America has more prisoners than any other country (2.3 million). We have more prisoners than soldiers; more than China — which has a billion more people than we do. So what to do? Well, author and assistant professor at John Jay College, Peter Moskos, has an answer, as proposed in his new book "In Defense of Flogging." He wants to give convicted criminals the chance to pick between flogging (a burst of searing pain) or incarceration (which breeds criminality and destroys family ties and job prospects). Moskos pleads his case to Metro:

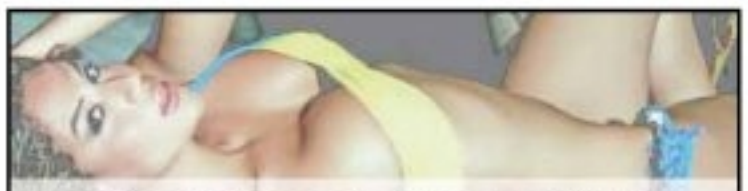
We've made strides in becoming a civil society that solves problems by discourse and ideas. So if physical violence is introduced as an answer, don't you worry this will reverse our advancement?

All I want to do is give convicts a choice. Given the choice between five years and 10 lashes, which would you choose? What's the harm in offering the choice of the lash in lieu of prison? Are we afraid people would choose flogging? What does that say about prison? And I question just how civil our society is. Even after America's great crime drop we still have a murder rate three times higher than Canada. They've made progress; we're still trying to figure things out. We know prison doesn't work, but we have no alternative.

Some say flogging is racist and reminiscent of slavery. What do you say to that?

Prison is the true legacy of slavery. Prison guards and private prison corporations profit from literal human bondage? What could be more immoral than that? To oversimplify, but just a bit: We pay poor, unemployed, rural whites to guard poor, unemployed, urban blacks. That's racist. Flogging is just a punishment. All I want to do is give convicts a choice in punishment — how is that racist? If flogging were so bad, nobody would choose it.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
dorothy.robinson@metro.us



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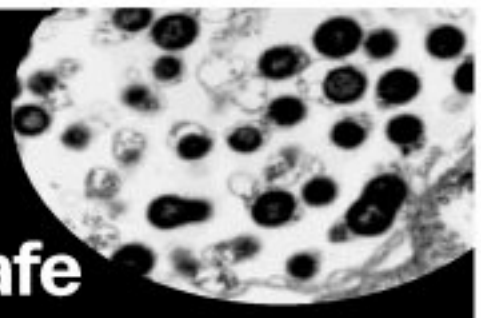

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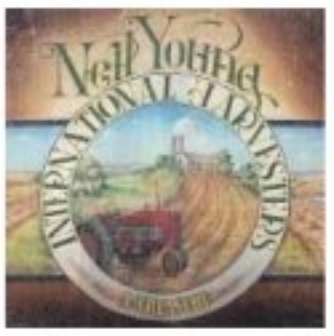
Your soundtrack to summer | CD roundup

LINDA LABAN

Arctic Monkeys
'Suck It and See'
(Domino Records) June 7
▶ **Who:** U.K.-based pop rockers with a smart, punk edge.
▶ **What:** The Monkeys survive the aftermath of the '00s back-to-the-garage movement with an album that has more pomp and stomp and '70s heavy rock shtick — but always with that sly, wry Arctic afternote.
▶ **Why buy:** To contemplate the metaphorical implications of titles such as the Soundgarden-esque "Don't Sit Down 'Cause I've Moved Your Chair." Heavy.



Neil Young
'International Harvester: A Treasure' (Reprise Records) June 14
▶ **Who:** The man who rivals Dylan for world's biggest road-hog title.
▶ **What:** These live cuts date from a time when Young pissed off corporations (including his then-label) and went rogue, touring in 1984 and 1985 with this stellar country combo.
▶ **Why buy:** Completist alert: Whether on CD, limited edition vinyl or the deluxe CD/Blu-ray package, "A Treasure" includes five previously unreleased songs.

Queen
'News of the World,' 'Jazz,' 'The Game,' 'Flash Gordon,' 'Hot Space'
(Hollywood Records) June 28
▶ **Who:** The band that put the wham bam in glam celebrates its 40th anniversary.
▶ **What:** Following the winter reissues of Queen's early '70s gems, round two re-ups world-dominating records from 1977 to 1982.
▶ **Why buy:** To top out the volume and crank "We Are The Champions," "We Will Rock You" and oddball hit "Fat Bottomed Girls."

Pitbull
'Planet Pit'
(J-Records) June 21
▶ **Who:** Miami rapper Armando Christian Perez nails vice-like rhymes into hit singles. You've heard him on tracks from T-Pain and the latest from Jennifer Lopez.
▶ **What:** Pitbull's team on his sixth album reads like a block party A-list: Ne-Yo, Afrojack and Nayer join in on the first single, "Give Me Everything." T-Pain and Sean Paul add their two cents' worth later. Everyone hugs.
▶ **Why buy:** Because your summer dance party needs a new soundtrack.

Vanessa Carlton
'Rabbits On The Run'
(Razor and Tie) June 21
▶ **Who:** The girl behind the beautiful piano pop hit "A Thousand Miles."
▶ **What:** No overbearing over-souling; Carlton delivers her grrl-pop straight, candidly exploring the twists and simple turns of fate that any girl of any age can relate to.
▶ **Why buy:** Sweet, easy-listening, non-bubblegum pop with lovely arrangements. Chill time.

The Deer Tracks
'The Archer Trilogy Pt. 2'
(The Control Group) July 5
▶ **Who:** Swedish boy-girl duo David Lehnberg and Elin Lindfors make moody electronic pop.
▶ **What:** Part one was an EP's worth of spiraling folky electronic dream pop; this goes full-length before another EP bookends the project.
▶ **Why buy:** To cement the stereotype that all Scandinavians are smart and stylish.

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TV watch list

TRAE PATTON/NBC

▶ The judging panel on "America's Got Talent."

'America's Got Talent'

REALITY. Jugglers, acrobats and dummies (and their ventriloquists) get their 15 minutes when the country's biggest talent show returns. **Season premiere, 8 p.m., NBC**

'Bizarre Food with Andrew Zimmern'

REALITY. Andrew cheats this week, visiting Embassy Row in Washington, D.C., rather than a far-flung locale to sample exotic cuisine. **9 p.m., Travel Channel**

'The Voice'

REALITY. Four more singers are sent home in the final Battle Round before the debut of this series's live shows next week. **10 p.m., NBC**

'Million Dollar Decorators'

REALITY. There's no Ektorp or Malm in the IKEA-free homes these high-end Los Angeles designers plan. **Series premiere, 10 p.m., Bravo**

AMBER RAY

▶ Nathan Turner is a "Million Dollar Decorator."

EVANS VESTAL WARD/BRAVO

The price of fame pays off

Phoenix Theatre Artists and Company One have a winning collaboration, 'Learn to be Latina'

COURTESY OF PHOENIX THEATRE ARTISTS AND COMPANY ONE

▶ Shawna O'Brien and Crystal Lisbon sizzle in "Latina."

Phoenix Theatre Artists and Company One could easily pack the house for co-produced "Learn to be Latina" simply by mentioning that two hot girls make out in the second act. But there's more to this delightful camp-fest than tight clothes and girl-on-girl — and not-so-tastefully simulated man-on-man — action.

Beneath the high-octane spoof of life in the music business, "Latina" is a scathing commentary on an industry mired in selling oneself to turn a profit. Everything from ethnicity to orientation needs corporate approval and if you want it badly enough, even those can be changed.

Director Greg Maraio smartly avoids getting heavy-handed with this message, opting instead for an engaging, almost frivolous production. Whether it's the disturbingly autocratic executive meetings at Funky Artist Development (FAD), the brilliant spoof of "Ellen" or the buffoonery of the Ph.D./MBA calling the shots, "Latina" never takes itself too seriously. The entire ensemble goes way over the top and their joy at doing so is highly contagious.

Shawna O'Brien is superb as Hanan, the artist selling out for the sake of stardom. Pop-star looks and sassy attitude aside, O'Brien's layered performance is what makes this production work. Kristina Kattar also shines as Blanca (aka Office Bitch), the lone voice of reason in the chaos.

In dual roles as sock-puppet wearing executive Mary and Latina talk show hostess Elena, Crystal Lisbon earns rave reviews. Rounding out the ensemble is a trio of spot-on performances by Maureen Adduci, Rory Kulz and David Giagrando as befuddled sycophants desperately angling to get ahead.

If you go

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mystyle

Addicted to shopping? Lucky for you, there's a new habit-forming site in town

- **Amazon.com throws its hat into the private sales ring with Myhabit.com**
- **The fashion elite give us a peek into their online shopping habits**

Fashion's A-list recently celebrated the launch of **Myhabit.com**, **Amazon.com**'s foray into world of private fashion sales. The online shop boasts hot deals on boutique and designer brands like L.A.M.B. and Nicole Miller, plus free membership, free shipping and free returns. Vanessa Hudgens, Brooklyn Decker and a slew of other stylish stars were on hand, and our curious minds wanted to know: What was the last thing they bought on Amazon? Here, they share their recent finds.

1 Vanessa Hudgens: "A pair of shoes."

2 Brooklyn Decker: "This big, giant book of Rolling Stone covers. Annie Leibovitz shot most of them. I actually just ordered it like three weeks ago so it should be waiting at my house when I get home."

3 Designer Christian Siriano: "I bought a book on Parisian interior design. I buy a lot of books on Paris interior design. I don't speak French, I just love the rooms; the last one I bought was fully in French, and it was gorgeous."

4 Stylist Mary Alice Stephenson: "A tie for [my friend] Bill. There was a bidding war on this tie. It's vintage Hermes."

5 Designer Prabal Gurung: "A lot of books for my nephew and niece. And I bought a little Tinkerbell outfit for my niece. She loved it."

6 CFDA Fashion Incubator manager Johanna Stout: "The last thing I bought on Amazon was a digital camera. It was great, I got to compare the different models, price points, capabilities — Amazon's the biggest e-commerce platform, and they do it best."

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myeducation

By the numbers

- Employers plan to hire 19.3 percent more graduates in 2010-11 than they did in 2009-10, according to the annual survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers.
- Also according to NACE, the average starting salary for 2011 graduates is $50,462. This is 5.9 percent more than the average of $47,673 for 2010 graduates.
- Class of 2011 grads with student-loan debt owe an average of $27,200, or $34,400 if parental debt is included, according to Mark Kantrowitz of Finaid.org.

Finally — some good news for recent grads

It's still a competitive job market, but things are looking up for the Class of 2011 Improving economy easing stress on students, families

THINKSTOCK IMAGES

▶ Go ahead and celebrate, grads.

Education Option.com

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
JUDY.WEIGHTMAN@METRO.US

Pity the new college graduate. Right after "Congratulations!" comes the dreaded question: "Do you have a job yet?"

Slightly more new grads can answer "yes" than the last two years, according to university career services pros. "The job market for '11 graduates looks better than last year. There are more job listings, and students are reporting that they are getting jobs," says Marjorie Apel of Manhattan College.

Rachel Brown of Temple University agrees: "The number of employers who participated in Senior Week: Interview Extravaganza in Spring 2011 tripled from Spring 2010."

Thomas Ward of Adelphi University warns, "It is still a very highly competitive labor market, and employers can afford to be choosy. Employers are not hiring in waves, they are staffing specific, strategic needs."

Students are getting jobs, though. Nancy Dudak of Villanova University reports that 40 percent of the graduating class already has found jobs. "That's typical of placement rates at graduation — 11 percent hasn't started looking yet," she says.

It helps that more employers are looking. Karen Diaz of Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology in Boston says, "We are seeing more job postings come into the office and receiving more calls from employers looking for our graduates of technical education."

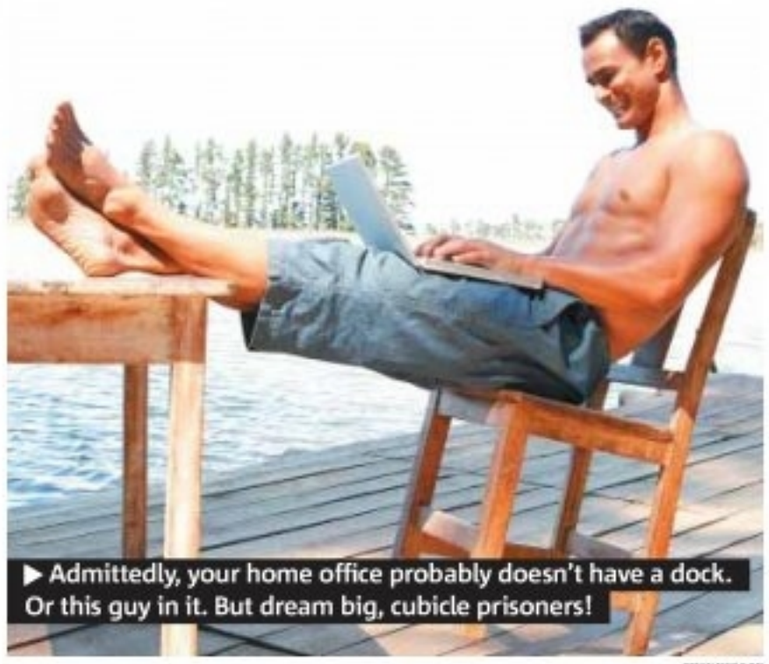
Alice Diamond of Lesley University points out that there are side benefits to the improving economy. "Students don't seem to be panicked," she says. "It helps that their parents are more relaxed. In previous years, many parents were also looking for work."

And if you're a graduating senior who hasn't found a job, all our experts agree with Jim Marino of Rutgers Camden: "Take advantage of the services of their Career Center for access to leads from employers and for services that teach job-search skills, from resume-writing to job-search and networking strategies to interview preparation."

mycareer

Turn your commute into a telecommute

- You know why working from home this summer is a great idea
- Now, you just have to convince the boss
- How to make your pitch



▶ Admittedly, your home office probably doesn't have a dock. Or this guy in it. But dream big, cubicle prisoners!

THINKSTOCK

In a summer where gas prices are hovering around the $4-per-gallon mark, just about every working stiff agrees on the benefits of telecommuting. Except one: your boss.

Talking the office naysayer into allowing the occasional telecommute can require exhausting acts of persuasion, career counselors say. "It really is about convincing the boss," warns Tory Johnson, co-author of "Will Work From Home."

To accomplish that, she adds, you'll have to come up with a well-prepared pitch. Keep the following tips in mind.

▶ **Start with a short-term plan:** Don't approach your boss requesting a permanent change of scenery, Johnson cautions. "It's a lot easier if you are initially focused on a trial period," she says.

Plus, Careerbuilder.com career coach Alison Nawoj adds, that will afford you the opportunity to prove yourself.

"Your boss may have concerns that you don't have good self-discipline," she says. "This is a chance to convince [him or her] you're a self-starter."

▶ **Ask not what it can do for you:** "Whatever benefits you come up with should center on how this can help your employer, not how it can help you," Nawoj says.

Those benefits abound, Johnson adds.

"For example, if you have a two-hour commute, be willing to give up half that commute time just to start working earlier," she says.

▶ **Show that you've thought it through:** "Recognize that the onus, at least in the beginning, is really going to be on you," Johnson says. "Do you have the right equipment? Do you have space in your home where you can make this work? Do some research first."

What to expect

Your boss will likely have some arguments against your potential freedom. Here are some common points — and your counters.

▶ **"What if something comes up?"**
"You need to say, 'I will be flexible,'" Johnson recommends. "Then, demonstrating that flexibility is going to be important."

▶ **"If I say yes to you, I'm going to have to say yes to everyone."**
"That's often a big one," Johnson notes. "Investigate — is there any company policy around this issue?"

DREW HINSHAW
letters@metro.us

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Letters

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Proper gravity of the situation

RE: "FOR JOINT HEALTH, LISTEN TO MOM": Mr. De Vito is quite right about the benefits of correct posture, but his grasp of physics is a trifle fuzzy. Gravity doesn't hit only the top of one's head and shoulders; rather it pulls upon our entire body irrespective of its position. Our total mass remains the same whether we lie flat or curl up into a ball which is why our weight (the measurable effect of gravity on our total mass) doesn't change either when altering our position. However, and this is what I believe to be his point, the distribution of our total mass does influence how our hip joints, knees and foot bones react to that pull.
ALLAN T. NEEDLE, VIA E-MAIL

Point, counter: Student loans

RE: "GREEDY STUDENTS CAUSE THIS PAIN":
Mr. Penner, did you even go to college? If you did, your letter suggests otherwise. Student loan companies prey on students — approving huge loans often with no co-signer requirement and no borrowing limit — and then charge unreasonable interest and demand high minimum payments that don't go toward the principle of the loan. Ask yourself, does such a thing exist elsewhere? I didn't think so.
TIM BIGELOW, VIA E-MAIL

Penner hit the situation squarely where it belongs when students are defaulting on loans, and I so agree with his idea of denying federal and state tax refunds until these debts are repaid. In addition, the so-called "for-profit colleges" should also be treated in the very same manner, because they are using the Pell grants and other loans as cash cows — taking the money right off, paying exorbitant salaries to their admissions staffs and suffering nothing when defaults occur. We should not allow these "diploma mills" to be the recipients of Pell grants and loans if their graduates continue to default on the scale that they do.
PAT DASKO, VIA E-MAIL

Smoking fear seems amiss

OK, I understand that smoking causes cancer, and I also get that secondhand smoke can be dangerous. That being said, if secondhand smoke was truly dangerous, shouldn't most of Asia be dead right about now? **JAMES ALLOCCA, VIA E-MAIL**

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** It isn't that you'll lack the capacity to overcome obstacles when you are challenged; it's more likely that you won't accept that there are any problems in the first place. Be realistic.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you discount your own worth and place a trifle too much importance on winning the approval of others, you won't be a happy person.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Keep outsiders out of your commercial or financial matters as best you can, because what they want you to do may not necessarily be good for you.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Certain associates and/or companions aren't likely to be in harmony with your aims, and could drag their feet and slow you down if you're not careful. Go it alone as much as you can.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If you are more motivated to partake in inessential activities than you are in serious endeavors, don't expect to get anything important done.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** When something is at stake that affects your personal interests, chances are you'll do quite well, but don't expect to be equally adept when carrying out a project for others.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Talk over money matters with the person who shares your expenses before purchasing something that is extremely costly. They might not want any part of it.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Friends you enjoy on a social basis might admire your repartee, but don't expect the same acceptance from co-workers. They'll appreciate a lot less wind and a little more work.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Trouble is in the making if you fail to spell out in advance just who is to pay for what when at a social get-together. Someone might think the costs are far too expensive for his or her taste.
♓ Pisces Feb. **20-March 20.** Remember, friends can come and go, but your family is the rock that weathers the test of time. Be careful not to show more favoritism to a newcomer than you do to your own kin.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Because you are likely to be challenged on your ideas, it is important that you have faith and the fortitude to rightfully stand up for them.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** It isn't always a good idea to mix business with pleasure — and it might be one of those times when an attempt to do so will result an unrewarding experience. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

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15 Circumvent
16 Beery or Yannick
17 Dry as dust
18 Operatic voice
19 Cellist Ma
20 Prom honoree
22 Chided
24 Wallach or Lilly
25 Tijuana coin
26 Football team
30 Sonnet stanza
35 Tattered cloth
36 Roman hill count
37 Frothy
38 Referred to
41 Broom alternative (2 wds.)
43 Mold source
44 "__-Hur"
45 Paris season
46 Ring up
47 Neared the summit
50 Very slow
53 Thai neighbor
54 Serves (2 wds.)
58 Moons' tracks
62 Mr. Moto quip (2 wds.)
63 Low scores
66 Timber wolf
67 Short-tailed rodent
68 Split to join
69 Term paper abbr. (2 wds.)
70 Watched carefully
71 Charger
72 Not often seen

Down
1 Geologic divisions
2 Nostalgic time
3 Wet weather
4 Swirled around
5 Fetch
6 Forum hello
7 Calendar abbr.
8 Hacienda material
9 __ hoping!
10 "Paint the Sky with Stars" singer
11 Plunder
12 Sammy or Danny
13 In boots
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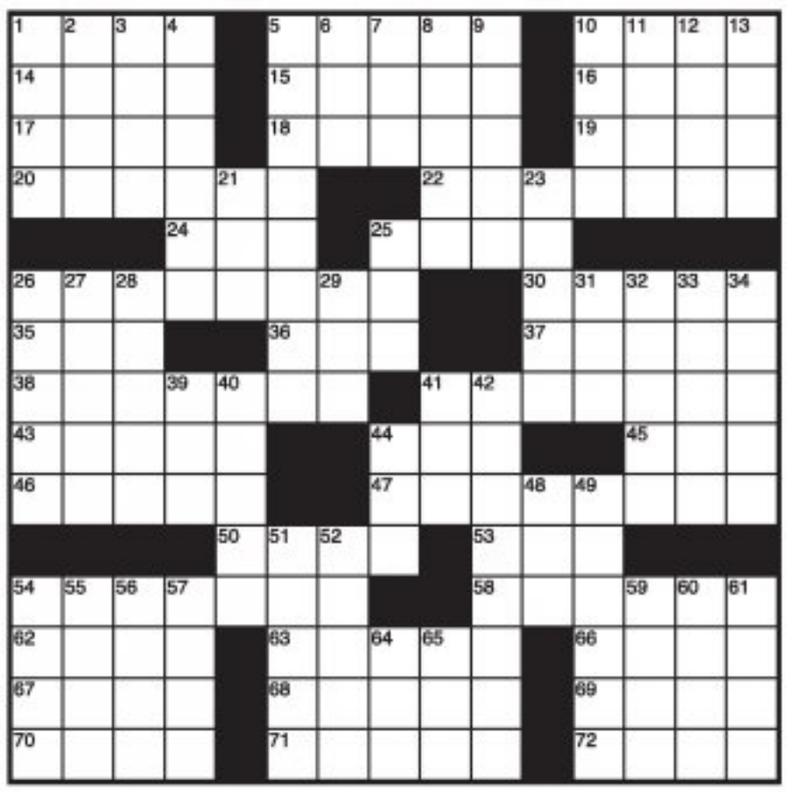
64 Sturgeon product
65 Unfold, in poetry



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to weekend's crossword

P	O	L	O	■	D	O	D	G	E	■	D	A	M	S
A	X	E	L	■	I	B	E	A	M	■	E	R	L	E
W	E	N	D	■	N	E	W	T	S	■	B	I	L	E
S	N	O	W	D	A	Y	S	■	■	D	A	Z	E	D
■	■	■	O	O	H	S	■	I	G	O	R	■	■	■
I	N	E	R	T	■	■	A	V	E	R	S	I	O	N
B	E	R	L	E	■	A	M	I	S	S	■	M	A	E
S	A	N	D	■	G	R	E	E	T	■	H	I	K	E
E	T	E	■	A	L	A	N	S	■	B	O	D	E	D
N	O	S	E	J	O	B	S	■	■	O	M	E	N	S
■	■	■	J	A	B	S	■	O	O	Z	E	■	■	■
R	E	F	E	R	■	■	■	E	X	P	O	S	U	R	E
O	P	E	C	■	D	A	V	I	T	■	I	R	I	S
C	E	N	T	■	E	L	I	D	E	■	T	A	M	P
K	E	G	S	■	F	I	L	E	D	■	E	L	A	N

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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thailand

For an urban experience in Thailand, most tourists visit Bangkok But in-the-know travelers hit Chiang Mai — an enchanting, bustling, small city in northern Thailand

Change it up in Chiang Mai

PHILIPPE HUGUEN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Monks at the Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep temple, located on a mountain just outside the center of Chiang Mai. It's a popular destination for many visitors (it offers outstanding views) and a sacred site to the Thai people.

What to do

The great thing about Chiang Mai is that unlike Thailand's tourist-soaked beaches, it offers a look at Thai living without the gloss of corporate tourism. You can spend hours just walking along the ancient, crowded streets of this walled city. Be sure to visit a few of the Buddhist temples (there are over 300), but be mindful: These are "working" temples to serve the local Buddhist community, so be respectful of local customs.

What to eat

Street food is plentiful in Chiang Mai (it's also safe — just be sure it's cooked in front of you to alleviate all doubt). Best of all, you can have an entire feast of noodle dishes, drinks, desserts and exotic fruit for just a few bucks.

They're big in Thailand

Chiang Mai has a money-making industry revolving around elephants. Sadly, some operations are exploitive. Luckily, a trustworthy experience can be had at the Patara Elephant Farm. Their "elephant owner for a day" program lets you feed and clean "your" elephant. Then, jump aboard and ride it through the jungle.

www.pataraelephantfarm.com

What to buy

Chiang Mai is famous for its street fairs and markets. Grab souvenirs and dinner at the **Chiang Mai Night Bazaar**, located in the heart of the city, any night of the week. But the **Sunday Market** is a can't-miss institution. Thais and tourists alike pack the streets, cheerfully haggling for the best price on Thai nicknacks and clothing well into the evening hours.

Where to stay

Tamarind Village

With jasmine-scented rooms, tree-shaded courtyards and cool breezes, Tamarind Village is a luxurious, yet down-to-earth, place to stay. It's such a serene oasis, it's hard to believe the bustling streets of Chiang Mai lie just beyond its walls. The friendly, attentive staff will help you plan outside excursions — but it's highly recommended that you tag along with them for their daily Tam Boon Tak Baat or "making merit" ceremony, where you offer food to local monks and they bless you in return. For an intimate insider's view of the city, there's also complimentary walking tours of local attractions.

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3

Quoted

"After meeting with university officials, we agreed that it is in the best interest of Ohio State that I resign as head football coach."

JIM TRESSEL, IN HIS RESIGNATION LETTER TO OHIO STATE AD GENE SMITH YESTERDAY. THE BUCKEYES FOOTBALL PROGRAM IS FACING NCAA VIOLATIONS.

The key to the Cup: Stopping the Sedins

Vancouver has a unique two-headed weapon on the offensive end ◗ The twins could decide the series

The Bruins have packed plenty of offense into their Stanley Cup playoffs run.

But even though Boston has scored more goals (58) than their finals opponents from Vancouver (51), the Canucks have something the B's don't:

The Sedin twins.

Henrik Sedin, the center and captain, leads the league with 21 postseason points (two goals, 19 assists). Daniel Sedin, a left wing, has 16 playoff points (eight goals, eight assists) after topping the NHL in regular-season scoring.

Is Boston ready for that?

"In the first series, it was [Tomas] Plekanec and [Michael] Cammalleri and [Brian] Gionta and those guys," defenseman Dennis Seidenberg said. "Second, it was Philly with one of the highest-scoring offenses during the regular season. And last series, we had [Steven] Stamkos, [Vincent] Lecavalier and [Martin] St. Louis.

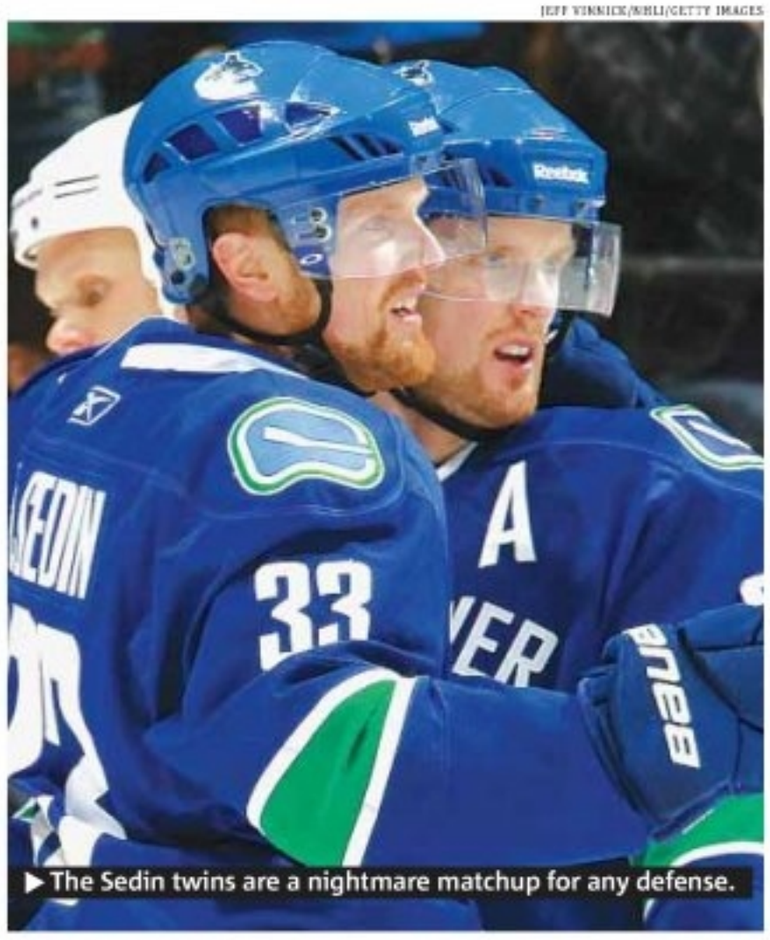
"So I'm sure we're well prepared for what's going to come at us."

The Sedins managed just two shots between them in the lone regular-season meeting of the teams, a 3-1 B's win on Feb. 26. But that's not giving Boston a false sense of security.

"Obviously they're very dynamic," B's forward Mark Recchi said. "They have little plays all over the place. Their whole line, they play very well." METRO

"I love shutting down those guys. Trying to, at least. There's nothing better than having a big challenge ahead of you."
DENNIS SEIDENBERG

JEFF VINNICK/NHLI/GETTY IMAGES



▶ The Sedin twins are a nightmare matchup for any defense.

A finals homecoming for Bruins winger Lucic

Milan Lucic grew up in East Vancouver, so he knows more than a little about the feeling in British Columbia these days.

"In Vancouver, there's a buzz in that city like never before," the Bruin said. "Everyone's excited, and the city is real confident in the team that they have."

Lucic just can't get his hometown buddies into the games. "I just tell everyone, 'Stubhub.com,'" he said. METRO

▶ No, Milan Lucic cannot get you finals tickets.

Not just happy to be there

Tim Thomas is happy to be in the Stanley Cup finals.

But the Bruins goalie and Vezina Trophy favorite is far from satisfied with where the team sits now.

"It's a big accomplishment," he said. "But you don't dream of getting to the Stanley Cup finals; you dream of winning the Stanley Cup. So there's still more work to be done."

Game 1 of the series is tomorrow night in Vancouver (8 p.m., NBC, 98.5 FM). METRO

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▶ Can the Mavericks hold down LeBron James? Or is the King ready for his crown?

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LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh have delivered, of course, bringing three series wins, along with their talents, to South Beach.

Out of the Western Conference, meanwhile, come the Dallas Mavericks. Sure, the Mavs have the relatively unhateable Dirk Nowitzki and the ultra-scrappy J.J. Barea. But they also rock one of sports's great loudmouths in owner Mark Cuban.

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